

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claim 33 as follows:

33. (Amended) An audio recording and reproducing system comprising:
an audio recording and reproducing apparatus comprising, a memory for writing and
reading digital audio data, an expander for expanding compressed audio data, and an external
I/O port for exchanging incoming data, and a processor for controlling the memory, the
expander and the external I/O port;
a first functional device removably attached to said audio recording and reproducing
apparatus configured to add a supplementary function to said audio recording and
reproducing apparatus;
a second functional device removably attached to said audio recording and
reproducing apparatus configured to add another function to said audio recording and
reproducing apparatus, and
wherein said second functional device adds the function of at least one of video
compression, facsimile transmission, wireless transmission, pager, navigation and wire
transmission.

76. (New) An audio reproducing apparatus comprising:
a memory configured to have digital audio data written to and read therefrom,
an expander configured to expand compressed audio data,
a first external I/O port,
a second I/O port, and
a processor configured to control the memory, the expander, the external I/O port, and
the second I/O port;

a processor configured to control the memory, the expander, the external I/O port, and the second I/O port;

a first functional device removably attached to said first external I/O port and configured to add a supplementary function to said audio recording and reproducing apparatus; and

a second functional device removably attached to said second I/O port and configured to add another function to said audio recording and reproducing apparatus,

wherein said another function added by second functional device includes a wire transmission capability for exchanging digital audio data with an external computer.

Please add new Claims 77-81 as follows:

77. (New) An audio reproducing system comprising:

an audio reproducing apparatus including

a hard disc configured to have digital audio data written to and read therefrom,

a display configured to display indicia of audio files stored on said hard disc,

user actuated control features including a fast-forward control, a play control and a rewind control,

an expander configured to expand compressed audio data,

a first external I/O port,

a second I/O port, and

a processor configured to control the memory, the expander, the external I/O port, and the second I/O port, wherein

the first external I/O port is configured to connect to a first functional device that adds a supplementary function to said audio reproducing apparatus, and

the second I/O port is configured to connect to a second functional device that adds another function to said audio recording and reproducing apparatus,

said another function added by second functional device includes a wire transmission capability for exchanging digital data with an external computer.

78. (New) An audio recording and reproducing system comprising:
an audio reproducing apparatus including
a hard disc configured to have digital audio data written to and read therefrom,
an expander configured to expand compressed audio data, an
external I/O port for exchanging incoming data,
a display,
fast-forward and rewind keys, and
a processor configured to control the memory, the expander and the external I/O port;
a first functional device removably attached to said audio recording and reproducing apparatus and configured to add a supplementary function to said audio recording and reproducing apparatus;

a second functional device removably attached to said audio recording and reproducing apparatus and configured to add another function to said audio recording and reproducing apparatus,

wherein said second functional device adds at least one of video compression function, facsimile transmission function, wireless transmission function, pager function, navigation function and wire transmission function.

79. (New) An information receiving apparatus, comprising:
a user interface configured to
display candidate audio titles in an audio database for selection therefrom, and

effect storage of predetermined audio data pieces selected from said candidate audio titles;

a communication device configured to receive the predetermined audio data through a communication connection and for storing the predetermined audio data in memory; and

a reproduction device configured to receive the predetermined audio data and store the predetermined audio data on a hard disc contained therein, wherein in response to receipt of the predetermined audio data, an account associated with the receipt of predetermined audio data is charged.

80. (New) A terminal for accessing a digital audio data file from a remote computer-based system that provides access to said digital audio data file on a fee basis, said terminal comprising:

a personal computer bus configured to interconnect a CPU,

a memory configured to store the digital audio data file once sent from said remote computer-based system, and

an input/output device configured to provide a connection to a network for communications with said remote computer-based system, and

connect to a user interface device;

a display configured to display candidate audio titles available for download from said remote computer-based system, said user interface device being configured to identify a user-selectable audio title displayed on said display;

a data interface configured to provide said digital audio data file to a portable audio reproduction device that is configured to hold and play said digital audio data file even if not connected to said terminal.

81. (New) The terminal of claim 80, wherein said input/output device is configured to provide a TCP/IP connection with said remote computer-based system.